

## CHAPTER 845.

(House Bill 797)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Sections 13 and 13A of Article 52 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1943 Supplement), title "Justices of the Peace", sub-title "Criminal Jurisdiction", relating to the docketing by the Circuit Court of cases originating before the Trial Magistrates and tried by the Circuit Court on appeal or otherwise, and providing for appeal to the Court of Appeals in certain cases.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland.* That Sections 13 and 13A of Article 52 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1943 Supplement), title "Justices of the Peace", sub-title "Criminal Jurisdiction", be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendment, to read as follows:

13. (a) The several Trial Magistrates of the State of Maryland (except in the City of Baltimore) are hereby vested with, and shall have hereafter jurisdiction to hear, try and determine all cases involving the charge of any offense, crime or misdemeanor, not punishable by confinement in the Penitentiary or involving a felonious intent, which may be committed within their respective counties; and shall have jurisdiction to hear, try and determine all prosecutions or proceedings for the recovery of any penalty for doing or omitting to do any act within their respective counties, the doing of which or the omission to do which, is made punishable under the laws of this State by any pecuniary fine or penalty, or by imprisonment in jail or in the Maryland House of Correction, all of which acts or omissions are hereby declared to be criminal offenses; and the said Trial Magistrates shall have power to issue all process, and to do all acts which may be necessary for the exercise of their said jurisdiction, and may pronounce judgment and sentence in all such cases coming before them, in the same manner, and to the same extent as the Circuit Courts for said counties could, if such cases had been tried before said Courts; provided, however, that the accused, when brought before any such Trial Magistrate, or being informed by him of his right to trial by jury, freely elects to be tried before such Trial Magistrate, and provided, further, that a jury trial be not prayed in such case on the part of the State by the State's Attorney.